

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MC-02

SY-05 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /074 W

----- 125743

R 100903Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL NAHA

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1668

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AIR BASE

USAGO FORT BUCKNER

313TH AD KADENA

MARCORBCAMP BUTLER

COMFLEACTS OKINAWA

3RD MAR DIV CAMP COURTNEY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: LEFT PROTESTS USMC WEAPONS STORAGE AND

ALLEGED SUPPLY TO JAPAN SDF

REF: NAHA 123 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: CONTINUING ITS ATTACK ON U.S. MARINE BASES, THE
OKINAWA LEFT IS NOW ALLEGING THAT THE USMC STORES OR SUPPLIES
WEAPONS FOR THE JAPANESE SELF DEFENSE FORCES AT ITS HENOKO

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AMMUNITION DEPOT AND THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS MAY BE STORED
THERE. PROTEST DEMONSTRATION IS PLANNED FOR EVENING APRIL 11.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE LEFT, THROUGH THE OKINAWAN VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
AND SPOKESMEN OF PARTY AND UNION ORGANIZATIONS, IS CONTINUING
ITS ATTACK ON OUR ALLEGED MISUSE OF OUR BASES. LAST WEEK IT
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CLAIMED THE MARINES HAD CAUSED A FIRE IN THE TRAINING AREA

NEAR CAMP HANSEN, BUT THIS WAS SQUELCHED BY THE FACT THAT NO MARINES HAD BEEN LOCATED IN THE VICINITY WHEN THE FIRE STARTED. THIS WEEK IT IS CLAIMING THAT THE MARINES ARE MISUSING AN AMMUNITION DEPOT NEAR CAMP SCHWAB.

2. THE LATEST ALLEGATIONS ARE BASED ON A BRIEFING GIVEN BY A USMC OFFICER TO A LABOR UNION DELEGATION WHICH PROTESTED DAMAGES AND INJURIES CAUSED BY EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL AT CAMP SCHWAB (ORIGINALLY REPORTED AS ARTILLERY FIRING IN REFTEL. 3. THE OFFICER NOTED THE JSDF STAFF VISIT HENOKO AMMUNITION DEPOT, LOCATED NEXT TO CAMP SCHWAB TO GET INFORMATION AND DATA ON ORDNANCE USED IN WWII FOR USE IN THEIR OWN DISPOSAL OPERATIONS. THIS WAS TURNED BY JSP AND UNION SPOKESMEN, AND THE PRESS, INTO AN ALLEGATION THAT THE U.S. WAS SUPPLYING OR

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STORING WEAPONS FOR THE JSDF.

4. THE USMC OFFICER ALSO STATED THAT HE WAS AWAY AND HIS ASSISTANT WAS IN THE "UNDERGROUND BASEMENT" SO DID NOT HEAR THE EXPLOSIONS WHICH CAUSED INJURY AND DAMAGE. THE LEFT NOW ALLEGES THAT THERE IS SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS ABOUT THIS "BASEMENT" AND THAT IT MAY BE OR MIGHT HAVE BEEN USED FOR STORAGE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

5. THE SOCIALISTS, LABOR AND TEACHERS UNIONS PLAN A PROTEST RALLY ON APRIL 11 IN THE EVENING, TO INCLUDE A MARCH ON THE GATES OF CAMP SCHWAB AND THE HENOKO DEPOT. THEY CLAIM TO HAVE A CROWD OF 1500 ORGANIZED BUT THE POLICE EXPECT 300-400. THERE WILL BE 250 RIOT POLICE ON HAND.

6. COMMENT: WITH HIGHWAY 104 FIRING UNAVAILABLE FOR PROTESTING, THE LEFT IS SOMEWHAT DESPARATELY SEARCHING FOR ISSUES. THE PACE MAY TEMPER DOWN AFTER THE APRIL 13 ELECTIONS (NONE ARE BEING HELD IN OKINAWA). THE PROTESTING OVER HENOKO AND SCHWAB IS UNFORTUNATE FOR THE ADDED REASON THAT THE DFAB-JSDF WOULD LIKE TO USE THIS DISPOSAL AREA JOINTLY WITH US.
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